

# Pull the plug on phantom electricity loss.



**Many appliances and electronic devices around your home use small amounts of electricity even though they're turned off.**

This “phantom electricity loss” commonly occurs in household devices that have a standby mode, a display or use a remote control, such as computers, appliances with built in clocks, and battery rechargers for cell phones, power tools and other electronic products. Limiting phantom electricity loss will reduce your energy use, save money, and help protect our environment.

Here are a few tips to help reduce or eliminate these phantom losses:

- Whenever possible, unplug the devices when you are not using them.
- Some devices, such as your TV, DVD player, cable box or video game console, are not practical to unplug on a regular basis. However, if they are not being used for an extended period of time, unplug them or connect them to a power strip and turn the strip off.
- Use a power strip for your computer and accessories (printer, fax, scanner, etc) so they can all be turned off with one switch.
- Use the power management feature on your computer monitor; it will turn off the monitor when it is idle for more than 15 minutes when you leave the computer on. Be sure to turn off your monitor when you shut down your computer — it can use twice as much energy as your computer.

## Looking for other ways to control your energy costs?

Whether you own or rent, there are simple, affordable steps you can take to reduce your energy consumption and lower your utility bills.



- ☐ *Install energy-efficient lighting – compact fluorescent bulbs use 75% less electricity than standard incandescent light bulbs.*
- ☐ *Be sure to turn off the lights when you leave a room.*

- ☐ *Insulate and seal heating and cooling ducts.*

- ☐ *Seal cracks around windows and doors.*



- ☐ *Install a programmable thermostat that will automatically adjust the temperature when you are not at home or at night.*



- ☐ *Look for appliances with the EnergySTAR® label because they can save you 30% on your energy bill.*

- ☐ *Take advantage of federal tax credits for improving your home's energy efficiency.*



**Use less energy. Save more green.**

For more energy saving programs and tips,  
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